



**On Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> , at 20.30 at the Magatzem, we celebrate a dinner for the presentation of the list of candidates.**

**Everyone is invited!!**

### ***WHO ARE "LA VALLEMOSSA QUE VOLEM"? OUR ORIGINS:***

*La Valldemossa que Volem* («The Valldemossa We Want») has its origins as a voters association in September 1998, when a group of residents started collecting signatures to stop the macro housing project and golf course that were to be built at Son Ferrandell, which would have doubled the population of Valldemossa, also destroying one of the most valuable spots in our municipality.

This group of people became the association *La Valldemossa que Volem* in order to have more legitimacy and a stronger voice when presenting their demands to the Town Hall. However, the councillors at the time never listened to them.

On September 13<sup>th</sup> 1998 there was a historical demonstration against the golf course and the macro housing project. About 200 people took to the streets in answer to the call of the association *La Valldemossa que Volem*. 3,400 signatures were also collected; more than 400 of these belonged to people who lived in the town (which by then had a population of 1,600).

As the local elections scheduled for June 1999 were drawing closer, we still had not been received in the Town Hall. Then we realized we could do a good work if we participated in the plenary sessions of the Council. So a group of us, who had taken part since the beginning in the projects of *La Valldemossa que Volem*, turned it into a voters association. This is how we also became the first independent and progressive list of candidates in Valldemossa: we define our association as progressive, democratic, ecologist, and nationalist, to different extents, since there is room within our ranks for different sensitivities.

Therefore we drew up a list of twelve people, backed up by the legally-required number of signatures, and we began to campaign, as best as we knew and could with the resources we had. When the local elections of June 13<sup>th</sup> 1999 came, the population of Valldemossa supported us with their votes. We got two councillors: Elsa Fernández-Pacheco and Ferran Mercant. They carried out a serious, honest opposition work in the Town Hall, keeping always in mind what was best for the people of Valldemossa, even though they were often harassed by the ruling Council. Those first years in Town Hall were very hard, due to the isolation and the constant disparagement we had to suffer. That is what makes the task of our first councillors so remarkable.

In 2003, *La Valldemossa que Volem* presented a list of candidates with a view to work hard as an undeterred opposition. We got two seats, that went to Jaume Vila and Martí Àvila, and Rosa Capllonch and Antoni Colom after them. As the only party in the opposition we managed to stop the concrete-block disaster that minister Matas and *regidora* Rosa Estaràs had planned for Sa Marina.

Some years later, in 2007, we presented again our list of candidates to the local elections, still willing to work for the town. This time, however, it was not to be as the opposition but as part of the Town Council, since we got three councillors and, moreover, arrived to an agreement with our two current government partners: Unió Mallorquina (one councillor) and Grup Independent de Valldemossa (one councillor). Our leading candidate, Jaume Vila, took the mayor office for the two first years in the term, opening up a new era in Valldemossa.

This is our history, and our goals have kept the same since day one. Our purpose: to work hard for Valldemossa.

### ***CLIMATE CHANGE AT THE TOWN HALL***

The Valldemossa Town Hall has experienced a true climate change since three groups (VqV, UM and GIV) made a pact to form the team that has been in power during the term 2007-2011.

The pact was proposed and promoted by La Valldemossa que Volem, when we asked for a 3-party meeting to agree on a team for the Town Council.

We met with representatives of UM and Grup Independent. Admittedly, the early talks were not easy, but the will to cooperate and work together prevailed. At last, the good news was announced of an agreement regarded as favourable for the people by the three groups.

We want to stress that La Valldemossa que Volem approached the pact with generosity, giving priority to the spirit of cooperation over the voting statistics in the sharing of the mayoralty, a decision we are now very pleased to have made.

The fulfilment of the agreed program and the corresponding teamwork has been the trademark of this pact. Mutual respect has been a prevalent feature in it. Never like in the past term has a ruling body had so many people willing to contribute experience and knowledge. Prestigious professionals were nominated by each group and have worked unselfishly in the different areas: Culture, Town Planning, Linguistics, Sports, Youth Policy, and so on.

### ***NOW MORE THAN EVER: ANOTHER WAY OF GOVERNING***

The four years of shared government have been a testimony to the fact that there is a different way to manage the Town Hall and, especially, a different way of doing politics. Cooperation and teamwork have been the rule among the three municipal groups (VqV, GIV, and CxI). This climate has carried over to all the municipal bodies, showing that the pact had a solid foundation, and has taken root as a positive presence in Valldemossa's everyday life.

This new way of governing has been made extensive to the plenary meetings in the Town Hall. For the last four years, the debates have been held with the utmost civility and a focus on mutual understanding over confrontation with the opposition group (PP). We have been completely transparent regarding our goals, and the Partit Popular has had forthcoming any information they have asked; that was not the case in previous terms of office, when it was nearly impossible to enjoy that freedom.

It must be pointed out that this way of cooperating has been taken up by the Partit Popular itself. While it is true that their contribution through motions and proposals has been very low, and their participation in debates little more than questions and remarks, we have been able to count on their willingness to vote for almost all Council measures.

We hope that this term will be a proof that there really is a different approach to municipal management, one based on shared points of view, the will to participate and an almost complete dedication to the tasks of a municipality that, although small, is rich in terms of the quality of its residents.

As a final remark, it is also important to thank the administrations of the island, Govern de les Illes Balears and Consell de Mallorca, two bodies which have always opened their doors to us, have listened to us in numerous occasions, and have provided financial support to the projects we have been able to present.

### ***HOW MUCH OF THE 2007 PROGRAM OF LA VQV HAS BEEN FULFILLED?***

From the program that we delivered four years ago as a commitment with the voters in Valldemossa, it will be apparent that, thanks to the teamwork carried out during this period, most proposals have been satisfied. Let us check it:

#### NOW, A SOUND AND PARTICIPATIVE COUNCIL

*Open to all.* Done. Citizen access to councillors and mayors has been a trademark of the change worked in this term.

*Rationalizing expenses and managing all the resources from other administrations (i.e. subventions, aids).* Done. We have asked and received more subventions than ever before, and have implemented a proper management for these times of crisis, overcoming the rationalization plan which controlled the previous Council.

*Drawing up a participative budget that is approved on time.* Pending. Improvements are needed both in the time spend on writing and passing the budget and in the participation aspect.

*Streamlining services, with an equal treatment for everybody.* Done. We have implemented new and better services to improve the quality of life in Valldemossa. Besides a nursery school, workshops, and a music school, the ground floor and basement of the building housing the Unitat Bàsica de Salut have been bought, so that in the future the assistance happens at ground level.

*Promoting the local TV and the municipal website, with useful information and easier administrative procedures.* Done. A radical change has taken place in the town website, which is becoming a tool for dealings with the Council. As for the local TV, we have comfortably solved the transition to TDT.

#### NOW, SUSTAINABLE LAND REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

*A final NO to the macro housing project in Son Ferrandell and the golf course.* Done. The Chopin development has been removed for good, as has also been the case with the one in Son Batista, in the framework of the adaptation of the municipal land regulation to the Pla Territorial de Mallorca. The population ceiling of Valldemossa is now 2,500 residents lower. Moreover, there is land set aside for council housing; l'Hort de Cartoixa is now protected, and a warning system for construction on rustic soil has been agreed with the Consell de Mallorca.

*NO to the roundabout at the Deià turning.* Done. We will have to keep on working for roads that are safe but adapted to our landscape.

*Promoting and boosting selective, door-to-door garbage collection, and the use of renewable energies.* Pending. The service at the dump (*punt verd*) has been improved.

*Improving water management: putting a stop to financial deficit and abusive consumption.* Done. With an ordinance based on progressive prices by sectors, and a policy designed for the use of public, free water resources. There has been investment in the sewer system: the oldest sectors of the conducts have been replaced. Moreover, new installations have differentiated networks for rainwater and sewage.

*Managing incentives for the improvement of irrigation channels.* We have led the formation of the Comunitat the Regants de la Font de Na Mas, and the beginning of a subvention plan to improve the channels, together with the Conselleria d'Agricultura.

*Looking for a solution to avoid the accidents caused by the increasingly slippery cobbled paving.* Partially done. We have had the stone of the steeper inclines roughened.

*Removing architectural barriers.* Partially done; now there is a safe and accessible path to the school, with sidewalks and raised crosswalks. The reforms carried out at the Escola Vella and the new Centre de Dia i de Nit are in compliance with the regulations.

*Opening an environment-friendly parking lot.* Done. In Council-owned land and with the support of the Plan E, twenty new parking spots have been created.

*Recovering the local network of walking paths, caring for their maintenance.* The municipal catalogue of paths has been created, and subventions have been asked for restoring the paths going out of the town. Work in progress.

*Promoting the recovery of sustainable «filat» hunting in the public terrains of Son Moragues.* There has been a proposal for the involvement of the Council in the ruling bodies of the public estate of Son Moragues. Action has been taken exclusively in favour of the traditional modalities of hunting (proposed corrections for the hunting regulations, for instance).

*Removing black spots in the road network of the municipality.* Safety has been improved along the road to the Port, and the road to Palma is being asphalted. The black spots in Son Ferrandell still need to be addressed.

## NOW, SOCIAL WELFARE FOR EVERYONE

*Helping families with more than two children and with children under three years, financial aids for the nursery school, discounts in municipal fees and taxes, social aids, support in the school dining hall.* The expectations have been exceeded with the construction of a nursery school for ages 0-3, with 27 places, all of them taken. The aid for families with more than two children has been reinstated, while keeping the support for school activities. School dining hall costs have been lowered and the food is now cooked at the Valldemossa school. An affordable summer school has been created with a special attention to the parental working hours.

*Helping the elderly and the disabled: managing the aids from the Llei de Dependència, kitchen service, care at home workers, phone assistance, keep-fit activities, supporting the Association of Elderly People.* Done. We placed the kitchen in a decent spot, we built the Centre de Dia i de Nit, where all social services, health care and activities for the elderly will be hosted. All the previous services have been kept, and we have a new paid employee exclusively devoted to answer questions about aids from the Llei de Dependència, more attention hours from our psychologist, and job search guidance.

*Promoting the municipal Plan Against Drugs: prevention of drug use and enhanced control of the drug supply.* Done, with the involvement of businesses, informing the families, making the local police check terraces and other spots, networking about antisocial behaviour, controlling the influx of people and the security during the Port festival, taking measures to prevent damages from street drinking, improving the coordination between the services in Valldemossa and with the Esportles High School...

*Supporting youth initiatives, promoting volunteering and associationism, providing spaces, subscribing cooperation agreements.* Done. The construction and management of the climbing zone, by young and adult people, is a case in point.

*Welcoming newcomers, providing basic information about interesting services, language courses, and help for regularization procedures.* Even more should be done.

#### NOW, MORE SUPPORT FOR CULTURE, FORMATION, AND SPORT

*House of Culture at the Escola Vella.* Done. Complete with Music School, Plastic Arts Workshop, Multipurpose Hall, and the Nursery School for ages 0-3.

*Opening the Music School and the Youth House.* Done. We have a Music School with more than 100 students in each of the four courses that have been offered and more than 15 formation choices. Also, a space for the young at Can Flor.

*Participative Commission to manage patron saint festivities.* Done. An open and plural commission was created.

*Creating a Cultural Council with the involvement of all associations.* Not done, but there has been cooperation with all the associations in town.

*Promoting the use of our own language and culture, as a tool for coexistence and integrating newcomers.* Done. The Regulation for the use of the Catalan language in Council communications has been approved.

*Writing the catalogue of assets of cultural interest (BIC). Promoting the preservation of landmark buildings in ruins (i.e. Molinet de la Beata), and protecting olive trees and other unique trees in our municipality.* Work in progress. The catalogue of cultural assets, necessary for the last steps of the adaptation to the subsidiary rules of the Pla Territorial de Mallorca, is currently being prepared; the restoration agreement for the Molinet de la Beata is under way.

*Ensuring that the municipal space of the Fundació Coll i Bardolet is being used, as a priority, for activities and exhibitions by local artists.* Done. Sharing the schedule of the premises between the Berber jewellery exhibition and the programmed events, thanks to the support of the Conselleria de Presidència.

*Actively participating and supporting all activities and professionals in l'Escola.* Done. Technical support has been provided for the maintenance of the premises, and also financial support, with the involvement of parents and students, on occasion of the saint Anthony barbecue, raising funds for the activities.

*Actively promoting sports for young people.* Done. Keeping the support for sport initiatives and improving the facilities.

*Building a skate course.* Done. It is placed in Son Gual, where we opened the gardens that belong to the people and have installed keep-fit exercise machines.

*Considering the viability of a town swimming pool.* Pending. Right now the construction is not feasible, much less the exploitation.

## ***ENTHUSIASM FOR COOPERATION***

In May 2007, after several tries, at last a possibility for change emerged. The catalyst was a pact made with two other political groups.

Changes were noticeable at once in the running of the Town Council, the first of which was the chance to see a festival that, while organized in a very short time, managed to muster wide popular participation.

From then on, many changes became apparent, be it because we did a lot of work, or because the previous occupants of the office did not.

Two years have passed, and the word on the streets is, mostly, one of satisfaction. A new mayor comes into office, a member of one of the other parties in the pact. ¿Will the story be the same as in other towns, where pacts have proven a disaster?

The third year goes by, and yes, changes are noticeable in the way of running the Council, but also an underlying companionship among the different members of the pact inside the Town Hall . At the end of this year, another mayor... Those early fears about possible disagreements are no longer there; in the eyes of the people, the thing seems to be working.

Music school, nursery school, sports field, more cultural events, day centre, and more. There has been no talk of quarrelling, or wishes to have more power than the others, or misunderstandings.

Ours has been a work team which has carried out several projects and has been able to perform its tasks with coordination, communication-- and surely it all has happened thanks to the wish to do things, the willingness, the readiness to improve. And it is this enthusiasm and this wish to do things for our town that best portrait the voters association La Valldemossa que Volem.

We have the enthusiasm and the will to keep moving forward with our projects, and it is our hope that this enthusiasm and willingness to work will be shared by many of you.

